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### INTRODUCTION OF HEW CROFS IN RUMANIA

Mumbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.

Experiments are in progress in various parts of Rumania to determine the adaptability of various plants to the Rumanian climate. At the same time, wider cultivation of industrial and medicinal plants is being encouraged.

Research is being carried on to find varieties of subtropical fruits such as lemons, oranges, figs, cacao trees, and tea which can be acclimatized. The ICAR (Rumanian Institute for Agrenchic Research) was given quantities of tea seedlings by the USSR. These seedlings were set at the beginning of May 1952 in some of the warmer, more rainy areas such as Baia-Mare, Bistrita, Braila, the Oradee River Valley, the Rumnicul-Valcea Valley, the Santana Collective in Arad, state farms in Oltenita, and at the ICAR experimental station in Bucharest. The tea plants are reported to be growing well in some areas.(1)

Additional research is being carried on by university professors and their students and assistants in Timisoara, Cluj, and Issi. This is being sponsored by ICAR experimental stations and Michurin clubs in Luncani, Marculesti, Studina, and other areas. The Cutuceni experimental station in Issi is testing 45 different species of plants. The Coarnele-Caprei experimental station, also in Issi, is trying to develop high-quality wheat, coru, sunflowers, potatoes, and soya beans. It uses artificial pollination to improve corn and sunflower strains. Five varieties of potatoes, il varieties of cotton, two of castor bean plants, and one of sesame are being compared for suitability to conditions in Issi Region.(2)

The ICAR station in Cluj has obtained good results in the development of a soya bean that can be grown on a large scale in Rumania. Poppies and belladonna for commercial purposes are also being studied.(3)

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The cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants has spread greatly in recent years. The 1952 area of cultivation in 11 times that of 1949. Ten species were grown in 1949. This has increased to 63 species in 1952. Collectives in Caracal Rayon, for example, have successfully raised coriander and anise. A collective in Snagov Rayon obtained an excellent crop of dodder (cuscuta) and fennel. Hardy forglove is grown on the Laicai State Farr in Arges Region. Other plants now widely cultivated include mustard, poppy, valerian, scapwort, belladonna, mint, cammile, and cantor beans. (4) Hedicinal plants, sugar beets, and other crops of commercial value are becoming more popular in Vidra Rayon. (5)

The cultivation of industrial plants has also expanded greatly in Ialomita Region. Flax grown on collective farms was 75-80 centimeters high in areas which were not hard hit by unfavorable weather conditions during the 1952 planting season. The sugar beet crop was successful wherever cultivation and thinning had occurred, but it was poor in rayons where this had been neglected. Sunflowers grew well where there were four cultivations, but they were stunted where weeds were allowed to grow. Cotton in the region did not came up to expectations in 1952 because of unfavorable weather and improper growing methods such as failure to weed and cultivate. Resowing in frost-damaged areas required 12-15 days. However, hot, rainy weather which followed hastened rapid sprouting and growth. Flax, likewise, was below expectations, because individually owned holdings were often overrun with wild mustard and rape. (6)

Among industrial crops, cotton is one of the most rapid gainers. The cotton area was 55 times as great in 1951 as in 1938. The Five-Year Plan calls for an area 100 times as large in 1955 as in 1938. The 1955 production of cotton is planned to be 794 percent of the 1950 total. Production in 1951 was 147.3 times that of 1950.(7)

Fruit raising 32 also on the increase. In the Buzau Region, for example, orchards and vineyards are spreading. In 1952, trees received good care, and pruning and spraying were on time. (8) Lugoj Rayon is making use of fallow lands along railroads and highways to plant poplar and fruit trees, both to provide more food and to serve as protection against drought. More than 30,000 poplar, mulberry, nut, and apple seedlings have been set along the highways and railroads from Lugoz to Ilia, from Lugoj to Caransebes, and from Lugoj to Topolovatul, on the Timisoara highway. (9)

The introduction of new plants has been studied not only in the food sector but also in forestry and lumber. The ICS (Institute for Forestry Research) has been looking for new sources of lumber to supplient the diminishing forests of Rumania. The institute expects to develop superior domestic varieties of trees and introduce new species from other countries. Many exotic species are now being grown at experiment staticus. These include: Quereus Borealis Michaux, Juglans nigra, Juniperus virginiana, Pseudotsuga textfolic Britt, Robinia Pseudoccacia, Morus alba, and Eucalyptus Viminalis Labill. The first eucalyptus were planted on 7 December 1950. Of the various species, Eucalptus Viminalis Labill proved most successful in the Rumanian climate.(10)



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### HOURCES

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- 2. Universul, 28 Jun 52
- 3. Scantela, 24 Jun 52
- 4. Ibid., 24 Jun 52
- 5. Vinta Capitalei, Jun 52
- 6. Romania Libera, 18 Jun 52
- 7. Perlin, Aussenhandels Machrichten, 30 Apr 52
- 8. Viata Sindicala, 8 Jun 52
- 9. Universul, 27 Jun 52
- 10. Revista Padurilor Lemmului Si Hartiel, Oct/Nov 51

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